



# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SCHOOL-BASED DECISION MAKING NEWSLETTER

**April 2012**

## Update of the 2012 General Assembly

During the SBDM Coordinator and Partner Training Sessions, several proposed bills that were filed with the General Assembly were discussed. None of the bills passed the General Assembly, nor were they signed into law. House Resolution 155 was signed and may have future implications with SBDM; however, the resolution only established a task force to study the issue of interscholastic athletics at the middle school level.

[HB 89:](#) House Bill 59 dealt with the two topics: the requirement of physical residency for parent representatives within the school district boundaries and the addition of a third parent representative to a school council. The bill passed the House and was posted with the Senate Education committee, where it was not heard.

[HB 457:](#) House Bill 457 dealt with the addition of a classified member as a non-voting participant on a school council. The bill was posted in the House Education Committee and was not heard.

[HB 59:](#) House Bill 59 dealt with the employment of teachers that completed certification through regular certification programs before the consideration of teachers that completed alternative certification programs. The bill was sent to the House Education Committee, but was not posted.

[SB 136:](#) Senate Bill 136 dealt with the change of posting dates for district positions from 30 days to 15 days. The bill was favored, but was recommitted back to the Senate Education Committee.

[HR 155:](#) House Resolution 155 dealt with the creation of a task force to study interscholastic athletics at the middle school level. This resolution was passed by both Houses of the General Assembly and has been delivered to the Governor for signature.

## Updated Information from SBDM Coordinator Training

During the March SBDM Coordinator training, information was presented concerning the number of identified Persistently Low-Achieving (PLA) schools and the recommendations about school council authority that was given with the Leadership Assessments of each PLA school. The data is now complete for Cohort 3. Below is the

completed chart with the number of each determination (by cohort and role) and the percentage of each role from the total number of PLA schools. Discussions during the training sessions centered on the data from Cohorts 1 and 2. Cohort 3, from the data, shows a more equitable distribution of school council role and authority with about half (ten) of the identified schools retaining their school councils and about half (nine) either losing school council authority or keeping the school council in an advisory role. Complete analysis as to causes and contributing factors has not been completed. The Leadership Assessments for any of the PLA schools and districts can be accessed on the [KDE website](#).

Cohort #	Total PLA Schools	Council Continues Role	Council Advisory Role	Council Removed
1	10	2	1	7
2	12	1	5	5
3	19	10	5	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Percentage</b>		<b>31.7%</b>	<b>26.8%</b>	<b>39.0%</b>

## Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What annual training is required of school council members?

A: School council members elected for the first time must complete a minimum of six hours of training in the process and implementation of SBDM. School council members who have served on a school council at least one year must complete a minimum of three hours of training.

Q: Who can conduct school council member trainings?

A: School council training must be conducted by trainers endorsed by KDE.

## SBDM Training Modules Ready

Final edits are complete for the 2012-13 SBDM Training Modules. The modules are being uploaded to the Web and will be ready for use soon. A few technical issues arose with the Web site links and are being resolved this week. As soon as the site is live, an email will be sent to all SBDM coordinators, trainers and partner organizations. All information needed to conduct trainings, as well as EILA certificates, will be included in that email.

## SBDM Training WebEx Available

An additional SBDM Coordinator session was to be planned for the spring. However, an additional session is not going to be possible until summer. For those unable to attend

the March session, a WebEx session can be [viewed](#) at your convenience. For those SBDM coordinators that wish to train their school councils, at the end of viewing the WebEx, send an e-mail to Judy Littleton to receive an EILA certificate. The WebEx is no longer than 90 minutes.

## Join Commissioner Holliday for a Twitter Town Hall

The Kentucky Department of Education invites teachers, administrators, district staff, parents and other education stakeholders to submit questions for Commissioner Terry Holliday's second Twitter Town Hall Wednesday, May 23 from 4-5 p.m. ET. Questions can be tweeted both before May 23 and during the live event from 4-5 p.m. ET. Use the hash tag #AskDochH to send questions.

The Twitter Town Hall also will be webcast live. If you would like to follow the Twitter Town Hall via live webcast, [click here](#). To listen and/or watch, you must have Windows Media Player installed on your workstation. Once Windows Media Player is installed, simply click on the appropriate link to hear audio-only or view the video with audio.

Commissioner Holliday looks forward to answering your questions on May 23.

## Update on KVHS

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is transitioning from serving as a provider of online courses offered through the Kentucky Virtual High School (KVHS) to a broker of full-time and part-time online learning options available through multiple statewide providers. The result is expanded e-Learning opportunities for Kentucky students.

In the future, KDE will provide a comprehensive list of digital learning providers. In addition, support and guidance will be provided to help schools/districts make the best choices regarding the use of digital content and online courses. As a new course for digital learning is charted in our state, KDE remains committed to improving education and continuing the rigor and excellence established by the Kentucky Virtual High School. KDE will be assisting Kentucky schools and districts to ensure that their students have multiple options for digital learning during the 2012-13 school year.

KDE has adopted the international standards for online teachers, courses and programs from the International Association of K-12 Online learning (iNACOL) that are research-based and reflect best practice. Careful review of these standards can help identify a high-quality online course provider and courses.

National Standards for Quality Online Courses, Version II, from iNACOL at <http://www.inacol.org>

[http://www.inacol.org/research/nationalstandards/iNACOL\\_CourseStandards\\_2011.pdf](http://www.inacol.org/research/nationalstandards/iNACOL_CourseStandards_2011.pdf)

If you require additional assistance, please contact Bob Fortney at (502) 564-4772 or toll-free (866) 432-0008, ext. 4540 or at [bob.fortney@education.ky.gov](mailto:bob.fortney@education.ky.gov).

**For questions concerning SBDM, contact us at:**

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